Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PK, IR

SUBJECT: PAKISTANI ARMS REQUESTS

REF: TEHRAN 12184

- 1. AIR MARSHAL ZULFIKAR DID NOT PRESENT TO US A LIST OF ARMS REQUESTS DURING HIS RECENT VISIT HERE. DISCUSSIONS OF THE PAF'S EQUIPMENT NEEDS WERE QUITE GENERAL IN NATURE, CENTERING ON ZULFIKAR'S PRESENTATION OF THE PAF NEED FOR A NEW GENERATION OF AIRCRAFT TO REPLACE THE F-86.
- 2. FYI, DURING AN EARLIER VISIT OF A PAKISTANI MILITARY SUPPLY TEAM NOVEMBER 10-14, THE AIR FORCE REPRESENTATIVE, GROUP CAPTAIN JAMAL AHMED KHAN, PRESENTED AN INFORMAL LIST OF "PAF REQUIREMENTS UNDER DISCUSSION." THIS TITLE IS MISLEADING, HOWEVER, AS THE LIST INCLUDED 110 A-7 AIRCRAFT CONFIDENTIAL

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WHICH ARE NOT RPT NOT "UNDER DISCUSSION." THE USG POSITION

REMAINS THAT IT IS PREMATURE TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE SALE OF SOPHISTICATED COMBAT AIRCRAFT UNDER THE TERMS OF OUR REVISED MILITARY SUPPLY POLICY. WE TOLD KHAN THAT WE COULD NOT CONSIDER HIS LIST AS HAVING ANY OFFICIAL STANDING, AND THAT IF THE PAF WISHED P AND A DATA FOR ANY ITEMS ON THE

LIST THIS SHOULD BE REQUESTED THROUGH THE ODRP IN ISLAMA-BAD. WE TOLD HIM INFORMALLY, HOWEVER, THAT CERTAIN ITEMS ON THE LIST, SUCH AS C-130 CARGO AIRCRAFT, H-43F RESCUE HELICOPTERS, AND RADARS, WERE EXPORTABLE TO PAKISTAN UNDER PRESENT POLICY. END FYI.

3. AS WE HAVE INDICATED BEFORE, THE DEVELOPING U.S.-PAKISTANI MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP IS NOT BASED ON ANY OVERALL SHOPPING LISTS. THE GOP HAS REQUESTED P AND A DATA ON A WIDE RANGE OF EQUIPMENT AND MOST OF THIS DATA HAS BEEN PROVIDED. NOW THE GOP IS SETTING ITS PRIORITIES AND DECIDING THE ITEMS FOR WHICH IT WANTS TO REQUEST LOA'S AT THIS TIME. WE HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED REQUESTS FOR LOA'S FOR UH-1H HELICOPTERS, SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES AND CON-STRUCTION EQUIPMENT, A LARGE NUMBER OF RADIOS, AND AMMUNI-TION. AN LOA HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR 2 1/2 TON TRUCKS. IN ADDITION, THE GOP HAS RECENTLY SIGNED AN LOA FOR A SMALL INITIAL ORDER OF TOW LAUNCHERS AND MISSILES TO BE SUPPLIED OUT OF CURRENT PRODUCTION WITH WHICH THE PAKISTAN ARMY CAN BEGIN TRAINING. AN LOA IS UNDER PREPARATION FOR PAKISTAN'S OVERALL TOW PROCUREMENT WHICH WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN ABOUT TWO YEARS. PAKISTAN ALSO HAS AN OUTSTANDING LOA FOR 1 1/4 TON TRUCKS WHICH IT HAS BEEN UNABLE TO SIGN APPARENTLY BECAUSE OF LACK OF FUNDS. KISSINGER

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